

## THE PRESS AND FORTS.

Lieut. Slattery says that the location of batteries here ought to be kept from the knowledge of foreign governments and then adds the interesting data that there will be more than the eight batteries specified by the Advertiser and that Hilo is to be also fortified. The contemplated ninth battery, it is well understood, is a nest of mortars at the rear of Punchbowl. All this useful information, we will add, has not only been derived from the open negotiations for land but from Washington where the Department seems to have no bones about telling what everybody will know for himself when the sites are purchased and the masonry piled up.

If it were possible to keep such things secret, Lieutenant Slattery might count on the Advertiser to assist; but when he tries to buy land for forts he necessarily gives the whole thing away not only to the press but to the numerous foreign consuls here. Had the Advertiser said nothing, the consuls could have marked on the current maps of the city the location he is buying and sent them to their Governments. They will probably do so anyway. Even if this were not the case, could the Lieutenant expect to build forts and plant guns on this small island without anybody finding it out?

Lieut. Slattery, who has visited Malta, says that he could see the fortresses there but could not see what was behind them. Very good. But the point does not apply to the present affair because the press has not undertaken and will probably never undertake to pry into the concealed secrets of the forts but it may be counted upon to describe what anybody can see by using his eyes, the foreigner included.

Take the relation borne to San Francisco forts by the press of that city. The whereabouts of the new main batteries there is not kept secret; it is known to everybody and has been mapped in the papers. The last time this writer rode along the main northern highway of the Presidio he passed within twenty feet of the battery of dynamite guns. These guns were pictured in all the San Francisco papers. Target practice is fully described by the press and the arrival and departure of regiments and batteries noted. Men are constantly being discharged from the army into the ranks of citizens who know all about the armament. The Presidio is open to the public, which can see for itself. Doubtless the amount of ammunition and food on hand is kept secret but never the caliber and location of guns—for the guns are dragged through the streets of San Francisco to their emplacements and when they are set up they challenge the gaze of the world. It will be the same way here. If there wasn't a newspaper in Hawaii, the main facts as they develop, about our defenses, would find their way regularly to the War Intelligence offices of every power from Spain to Japan.

And what harm? As citizens of Honolulu we prefer to have every hostile naval nation know that this port is a good place to avoid. We do not want their fleets to be lured here, believing the city an easy capture, and then test the matter by a bombardment. Let them understand that every point of vantage here is adequately defended and they will give us a wide berth, especially as they can have no near-by base of repair and supply to tempt them into taking desperate chances. Perhaps the United States army and navy would prefer a test of strength. For us we choose security.

## THE INNER CIRCLE OF SOCIETY.

The smart set at Newport is to be reconstructed. It is not exclusive enough. Those who were born three removes from shirtsleeves have decided to draw the line against those who were born but two removes. The one-remove class like the Chicago men who were born "with silver pie knives in their mouths," are never in society at all and do not count.

The reorganization committee are an interesting lot. J. J. Van Alen, famous for the remark that America is no place for a gentleman, is at the head of it. O. H. P. Belmont, the racing man, and the husband of Wm. K. Vanderbilt's divorced wife, comes next. Perry Belmont is also in from the track. The prominence attained by his monkey dinner brought Harry Lehr within the charmed circle. Reginald C. Vanderbilt, who has been dodging a subpoena for months so as to escape the witness stand in the Canfield gambling case is a line-drawer of high degree, having drawn one successfully against the whole police force of New York. The rest of the committee with one or two exceptions, figured at the "Little Egypt" dinner a few years ago—"Little Egypt" being a lady who danced on the dining table after the feast, with some uncertainty as to clothes.

The rank outsiders contemplating this array will appreciate the point made a few weeks ago in a "Life" cartoon:—"She—It does seem as if we should never get into good society." "He—Well, I'm afraid you're right. We seem to be so hopelessly mixed up with the smart set."

## THE POSTOFFICE SITE.

Colonel Soper makes the good suggestion that the Territorial authorities should acquire the site fixed upon for a Federal postoffice in this city and hand it over to the Government as a free gift on the understanding that the Postoffice Department shall press for an appropriation to begin building.

The site, which is located opposite the Alexander Young Hotel, on the Ewa side of Bishop street, belongs to the Bishop Estate. The trustees of that Estate are not empowered to sell, but they may exchange; and as the Territory has considerable land on its exchange list, it might easily acquire the property which the Federal Government wants and turn it over.

Work on a big public structure would be appreciated during the coming year by our merchants and mechanics.

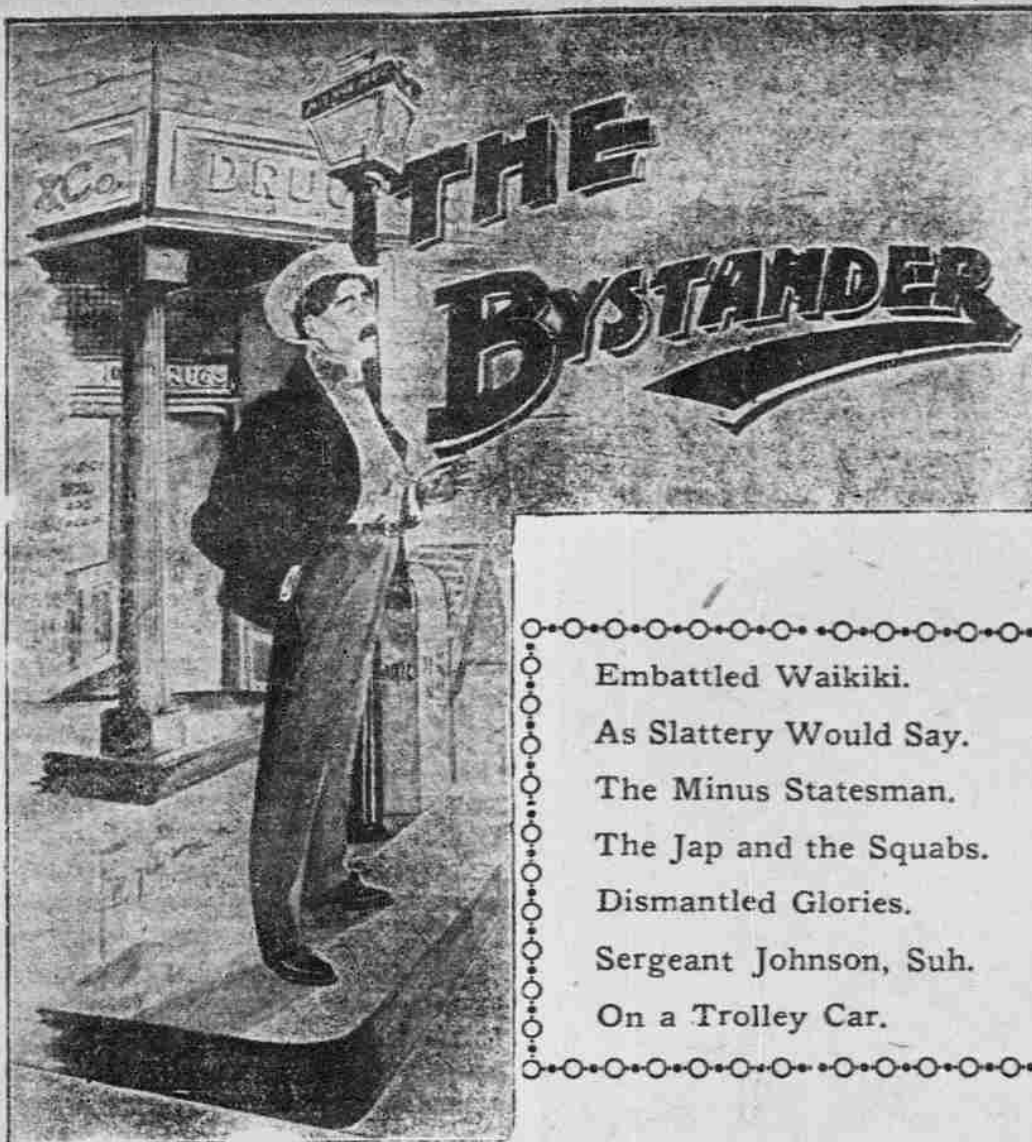
It is not likely that Congress will withhold funds for realizing an elaborate plan of insular defence. When the Endicott board met and framed a scheme of coast fortifications calling for an outlay of \$80,000,000 in a given term of years, party leaders on both sides agreed to provide the money and they did so. All important sea-coast harbors in the United States mainland are now safeguarded. The naval development project was worked out in the same uniform way. Indications are that another definite policy is being applied to Hawaii, Porto Rico and the Philippines, and that it will be carried out without undue delay. As for the reasons for rapid work in completing an insular defence system some of them may be found in the text of the famous MacArthur interview.

Korean laborers have to be handled with care. They are a benighted and superstitious lot, believing in signs, omens and ghosts and they are deeply suspicious of the white man. Doubtless the sick Korean at Waipahu, when suffering from an intestinal trouble, easily made himself believe that he had been kicked in the stomach by the plantation doctor, which is the form of treatment he might expect from a medicine man at home. It was natural enough for the other Koreans to believe the absurd yarn; in fact these translated hermits believe anything against the strange men of the West. The Methodist church is trying hard to disabuse them of their fantastic notions and make them see civilization as it is, but the task is often discouraging.

France and the Vatican have finally parted. This means that the concordat, which has lasted for a century, is now annulled and that the church in France must hereafter support itself. By the terms of the concordat, a treaty made between Napoleon I and Pope Pius VII, France named the Bishops in its territory and paid 10,000,000 francs per annum towards the expenses of the hierarchy. Now church and state are divorced, possibly for all time.

The Mauna Loa brings in the story of an immense sword fish which rushed at a cliff and was caught in a crevice. Probably the monster was trying to get up into the Kona pastures where the Mauna Loa's flying fish are milking cows.

The Laredo, Texas, rules for exterminating mosquitoes were copied word for word from those prepared by D. L. Van Dine here and issued to householders by the Board of Health. Evidently they filled the general order.



## Embattled Waikiki.

As Slattery Would Say.  
The Minus Statesman.  
The Jap and the Squabs.  
Dismantled Glories.  
Sergeant Johnson, Suh.  
On a Trolley Car.

The fortress with its tier of guns  
Stands sentry on the crescent shore.  
The kamaaina browed with suns,  
Keeps watch beside his henhouse door;  
The cool winds bring the mess hall's reek,  
The soldiers' shirts dry on the tree,  
And cannoners to strangers speak  
Their toughest words at Waikiki.

Like truant children in the deep  
Escaped beyond their homestead wall,  
The soldiers in the wavelets leap,  
Nor heed the bugle's stern recall;  
All day they frolic on the sands,  
Kiss native girls in wanton glee,  
Buy swipes at all the near-by stands  
And snoring sleep at Waikiki.

O Waikiki, O place of rows,  
O home of drills and guardhouse scenes,  
We'll talk no more of fringed boughs,  
But tune the muse to lustier themes;  
For where were once the broad lanais  
And muslined maidens poured the tea,  
Stark barracks face the sunset skies  
And angels gasp o'er Waikiki.

This is the way Lieut. Slattery's negotiations ought to be reported so as to deceive the enemy:

"A gentleman named Slattery is here getting options on real estate for a syndicate of philanthropists. He has chosen four lots on the beach at Old Waikiki where he hopes to establish a foundling asylum. A little further along, near Diamond Head, he has picked out property for a fresh air farm, to which convalescents will go from the hospitals for the benefit of the sunshine and the ocean breeze. The Hospital for Incurables at Kaimuki attracted his attention some time ago and he expects to buy it and add largely to its equipment. Just beyond, at the Niu beach, he will have an annex for hot salt-water bathing and electrical treatment in nervous diseases. Mr. Slattery, who is a very humane man, will put a creche back of Punchbowl, for the exclusive use of babies whose mothers take in washing. At the Pali will be a hospital where contagious diseases are to have the benefit of skilled physicians, one isolated from Honolulu yet near enough for supplies to be easily brought from town. Some miles away at Wai-anae gap, Mr. Slattery intends to build a hospital for lame dogs. One of his most important projects is that of building two enormous crematories on either side of the entrance to Pearl Harbor, one for the incineration of men and the other of women. He is strongly opposed to the promiscuous burning of the sexes. Mr. Slattery will depart from the ordinary forms of architecture when he comes to build, and make massive structures of masonry and earth, so as to secure quiet and perfect isolation for the sick."

Having deceived the enemy in this way through the local press, the sly Mr. Slattery will quietly store big guns in his various structures and, when a piratical foe comes gaily in, thinking that he has arrived at an innocent health resort, Mr. Slattery will touch a button and astonish the enemy by blowing him up. It's a great strategic scheme and I hate to see the Advertiser spoil it by telling the obvious truth.

Kuhio makes me smile. He is quoted in the Star as saying that Honolulu men who want anything at Washington would do better if they worked through their representative. So they might if they had a representative. Inquiry at Washington last winter developed the fact that, after the police court affair, the authorities took no more notice of Kuhio, a course they had been disposed to follow before owing to his inattention to business and his inability to answer questions about Hawaii's special needs. Secretary Shaw, who had tried to cultivate Kuhio at the beginning, soon gave the thing up as a bad job. He complained to a visitor last month that he once pointed out a measure of great benefit to this city which he said the Treasury Department would urge upon Congress if he would get it endorsed by the Honolulu Chamber of Commerce, Merchants' Association, Builders and Traders' Society and by Governor Carter, and that Kuhio never returned to the subject again and, for all he knew, did not notify Honolulu at all. "Why don't you send a representative man here?" asked the Secretary. The same question has been asked over and over again by Congressmen. As for the merchants, all they have got from Washington so far has been by their own exertions, and they are not to be blamed for depending on that lever for future results. It is all very true that one term is not a fair test for a good man, but it is all the test needed for an incompetent one. Kuhio was a member of the extra session of the previous Congress, succeeding Wilcox, deceased. He has had more than one term already and done nothing but draw his salary and mileage, spending so much on his personal pleasures that he had to have help in getting home. He got nothing for Honolulu and passed no bills. He does not want to go back to pass bills but to make a living. If he is re-elected we shall have to stand unrepresented for another two years, though I confess that it would be less dangerous to elect him that Lukea on the ground that a sheep is a safer pet than a mad dog. For myself I should like to see both these parochial statesmen left at home, the one to give his alleged ability to the affairs of the Kapiolani Estate and the other to wash his spotted skirts.

Young married women from the mainland who begin their housekeeping duties here with Chinese or Japanese servants are handicapped by lack of knowledge of pidgin English, and this, with the stupidity of many of the servants, produces some ridiculous results. A married couple who recently came from the national capital set up their household goods in a pretty cottage in one of the suburbs and employed a dapper-looking Japanese cook. One day a friend sent them some live squabs. The wife scented a fine dinner with the squabs resting on nicely browned pieces of toast. The birds were taken to the kitchen and in the best servant language the lady could command, she said: "Naka, I want these nice squabs to eat. You can fix these up for our dinner." "Yes," was the reply. About dinner time, when the husband had come home with a friend, the wife drifted into the kitchen to see how things were going on. She had heard a deal of hammering during the afternoon, but thought the cook was cutting kindling wood. Imagine her surprise when she found Mr. Jap squatted on his haunches just putting the finishing touches to a small coop in which the squabs had been placed.

In the old throne room of the Capitol building where kings, queens, princes and princesses of Hawaii, foreign noblemen and the great and exalted of many nations who passed through Honolulu's portals, were wont to foregather on momentous state occasions, there is little left to show the grandeur of the former Hawaiian monarchy.

Little by little the chamber has been stripped of its royal adornments until only the canopy over the throne dais and a number of oil portraits of various rulers of Hawaii and of other nations remain upon the walls. Recently the embellishment of the Governor's executive chamber, the "robin's-egg blue room," has caused a raid to be made upon the historic portraits in the throne room with the result that King Kalakaua and Queen Liliuokalani were removed to the upper room. In this raid the life size portraits of Louis Philippe, "The Citizen King of France," and of Napoleon III, both unfortunate rulers of the Gallic kingdom, were shifted about. During the County Act meeting on Tuesday night, Louis Philippe, resplendent in his gorgeous uniform, decorations, plumes and surrounded by evidences of his rank, lay upon his side. Napoleon reposed upon the dais, he, too, decked out in a brilliant cuirassier uniform. It seemed an odd fate that brought them in such close contact, shifted about upside down or any old way in the throne room of a defunct monarchy far out in the middle of the Pacific.

Two of the pictures, that of Kamehameha II and his Queen, are said to have been originals by Le Brun, the famous French artist. By reason of their being Le Bruns they have more than the ordinary value.

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# COMMERCIAL NEWS

BY DANIEL LOGAN.

Readers of this weekly review may confidently be called to witness that it has not aimed at the cultivation of a pessimistic tone in the community. Yet for reporting the fact that the prevailing sentiment about town the previous week had been of a downcast nature the writer has been taken to task by a banker, though in a gentle way and with the compensation of giving him material for a more cheerful message. Attention may be called, however, to the circumstance that the article in question took exception to the too prevalent grumbling and recommended, as a better way, that business men should get together more frequently to seek remedies and devise means of unitedly applying them to the situation. My friend the banker states that several of his business acquaintances have informed him of decided improvement in trade as compared with the corresponding season last year. These people spoke from the showing made by their own houses. The banker further gave it as his own opinion that such unfavorable conditions as existed were exaggerated by the grumblers. A member of one of the largest wholesale and retail houses in a special line has also given a cheering opinion to the writer. According to this authority July and August are ordinarily dull for business and there is nothing unusual in the quietness now prevailing. He expects to see a substantial revival in trade generally about September. Store bills are being paid with a fair degree of punctuality.

## ELEMENTS OF HOPEFULNESS.

The week has been prolific of developments and incidents inspiring of confidence in Honolulu's future. There is the divulgence made through this paper of Federal interest and intention relative to making Honolulu one of the most important military and naval outposts of the Union. Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock's annual requisition for suggestions of needed Federal improvements in the Territory, for which Congress should be asked to provide, has been made public, with a request by the Territorial executive to commercial bodies and citizens for recommendations in that behalf. As to domestic conditions the newspapers of the past six days have recorded many things betokening progress achieved along with the promise of increasing prosperity. Among these factors may be mentioned the organization of a new building and loan society to work under a public charter, the starting within a few days coming of a well-equipped tannery to manufacture raw material hitherto exported in large quantities and, last but not least, satisfactory tests made in the exporting of our fruits in their natural state to markets until now deemed unavailable on account of distance.

## GOVERNMENT FINANCES, ETC.

Treasurer Campbell has more than made his word good to the banks in the matter of paying registered Treasury warrants. He engaged to pay warrants up to No. 4507 by the 1st of August. On the 30th of July he had redeemed all registered warrants up to No. 4524. He will pay more this week to the amount of \$30,000. Perhaps but few people give a thorough perusal to the Treasury statements published by the Auditor in the Advertiser, owing to indisposition of rushed or tired men to tackle a broadside of figures that does not immediately concern their own business. There are some statistics in the Auditor's annual statement of Territorial finances which may be surprising to any who have run away with the idea that there has been extraordinary contraction in the volume of money returned to circulation by the Treasury during the past financial year. It must be remembered, though, that the policy of economy and retrenchment has only been in force since June 30 last. Besides, that policy is designed, not to pile up a surplus, which is out of the question, but to keep expenditure within income so that this period will not be handicapped as this has been with debts of its predecessor. The payment of such "dead horse" has aided to make the expenditures of the past year greater than those of the previous one without corresponding benefit to public services. It is also to be remembered that a very expensive session of the Legislature swelled the 1903 outlay. So it is not true that the community has suffered from contraction in circulation of public money, but the public services are now suffering from restriction of supplies while the process of readjustment is taking place. For the year ending June 30, 1904, the Treasury warrants issued amounted to \$2,664,818.39, against \$2,405,309.62 for the year ending June 30, 1903, or an excess for the year last past of \$259,508.77. The total expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1904, were \$3,550,262.34, against \$2,805,497.80 for the corresponding year ending in 1903, an increase of \$744,764.50. There was no loan fund expenditure for the 1903 year, while loan expenditures were in the year just past to the amount of \$505,036.78. Subtracting the loan expenditure from the 1904 account, there is left a net increase of current expenditure over 1903 of \$239,727.76. Another item of note is a reduction of the net indebtedness of the Territory by \$301,479.53, the amount on June 30, 1903, having been \$2,078,100, against \$1,686,620.47 on June 30, 1904.

## GENERAL NOTES.

There has been little activity in the stock market for the week. The largest transaction was a sale of 400 shares Olaa at \$4.50. Hawaiian (Makaweli) sold at \$22 early in the week, but 350 shares went for \$21 later. Some Oahu changed hands at \$87.50. Paia bonds have sold at par, and Oahu Railway & Land Co. at \$104. Real estate interests have been thrilled by U. S. Army requisitions for sites for fortifications along the shore approaches to both Honolulu and Pearl harbor. Some pieces of city property have passed at prices quite up to the prevailing rates, such as the Vida premises at King and Young streets for \$12,000 and the Scott home in Prospect street for \$3500. The sale of real estate of the late Luther Wilcox is an important event announced for tomorrow at Jas. F. Morgan's auction rooms. Superintendent of Public Works Holloway has acceded to the request of the Builders and Traders' Exchange for segregation of contracts in different classes of work upon public buildings to the extent of engaging to adopt the change in the Asylum and Normal School buildings. Someone in Hilo asks the Superintendent to go further and give separate contracts for supplying the materials for public works. Proposals are invited by the Superintendent, until September 5, "for the construction of certain buildings and for doing certain other work on the grounds of the Insane Asylum."

## HUMOR FROM MANY SOURCES.

### The Romance of the Sheriff and the Postmistress.

How could a man who is handy with firearms himself, but who carelessly allows a lady to get the drop on him for infringing her code of politeness, fail to fall in love with such a border heroine? That is what this gallant Texan did, according to the New York Evening Post:

The case of the Texas sheriff who appealed to the Post Office Department for assistance in dealing with a "lady postmaster" with advanced ideas on the subject of courtesy has excited country-wide interest. It will be recalled that men who neglected to take off their hats on going in for mail were promptly "held up" by the postmistress, and lectured on the sin of rudeness to a lady. The matter, however, has been settled in a most satisfactory and unexpected way. The sheriff has sent a long letter to Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General Bristow, portions of which we reproduce. After duly apologizing for his handwriting, which "is sure scrawly and careless," the sheriff declares that when Mr. Bristow casts his eyes over the letter he won't act like a mortal man if he "don't stick out his paw and say, 'Put it there, Bill,' for the news which I am going to pass out to you is some personal and exciting," calling for Mr. Bristow to empty his gun and order "six fingers of red eye." Following this cheering introduction, the Texas guardian of the law announces that he's changed his mind about the "lady postmaster" since writing the last letter of complaint. The circumstances of the change are thus recorded:

"One day I was just about to hit the trail after a greaser and I stops in the postoffice some quick and unnoticed. Next minute I was looking down a forty-five and my hands was up, while the lady postmaster was sayin' right cold and meaning, 'Gentlemen is expected to remove their hats when transacting business in this office.'"

"They wasn't any citizens of the town that saw me taking lessons, and I ain't naturally a talkative man, but the ondignifiedness of the situation sort of rankled in me, and when I came in with the greaser over my saddle, the same having tried to get away, and me being right fretful and impatient that morning, I sat down and wrote you that letter."

"I ain't sorry that I done it, even if it was the mayor's place to notify you. But he's sure unlitlerary except with a branding iron, and as it was, everything turned out all right. Me and the lady postmaster is married. You ain't a bit more surprised than I was when I says to myself one day, 'Bill, this trail you're camping on sure leads to matrimony.' But I kept on camping right there just as if there wasn't no danger ahead and one day it happened."

"I sort of felt mean in my mind about writing to you telling about her, and when that fool inspector came down here he told her it was me that complained. I didn't hear about it till after he left town, or you sure would have had a job on your hands quick and immediate. But you can't tell what a woman will do no more than a hoss, and it seems she got sort of interested in me account of my kick."

One of the stories told of Dr. Holmes is that one day old Dr. Peabody was to meet him at a certain place. The venerable professor rode to the place in a carriage. When he got there, he was met by Holmes, who had walked. Near by was a statue of Euridyce. And Holmes said, "Ah, you rid, I see!" "Capital, capital!" cried Peabody. That night he went back home, and said to his wife, "Holmes got off a good joke to-day." His wife asked him what it was. "Why, I was to meet him down at the statue of Euridyce; and, when I arrived, he said, quite happily, 'Oh, you came in a carriage!'" And then Dr. Peabody wondered why his wife didn't laugh.—Outlook.

One Sunday a teacher was trying to illustrate to her small scholars the lesson, "Return good for evil." To make it practical she said, "Suppose, children, one of your schoolmates should strike you and the next day you should bring him an apple, that would be one way of returning good for evil." To her dismay one little girl spoke up quickly, "Then he would strike you again to get another apple."—Youth's Companion.